

FY24 Fully Qualified (FQ) Dentist Fact Sheet

Benefits of Joining the Air Force as a Fully Qualified Dentist

- An annual salary based on your rank, location of duty station, if you have dependents, and years in service:
 - Base pay starting at \$5,102/month
 - Basic allowance for subsistence starting at \$322.28/month
 - Basic allowance for housing starting at \$1,374/month
 - Incentive pay for licensed dentists starting at \$20,000/year
 - Board certification pay for board certified dentists at \$8,000/year
 - Portions of your salary are not taxable income
- The option to sign an Accession Bonus or Retention Bonus *immediately upon accession*
 - Accession Bonus
 - Active duty service commitment of 4 years
 - Can be paid in one lump sum
 - \$100,000 for General Dentists without completion of a 1-year AEGD/GPR
 - \$140,000 for General Dentists that completed a 1-year AEGD/GPR
 - \$240,000 for Comprehensive Dentists that completed a 2-year AEGD/GPR
 - \$300,000 for Prosthodontists
 - \$600,000 for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
 - Retention Bonus
 - Unique to the Dental Corps, dental officers can sign a retention bonus effective their first day of active duty (if submitted within contract submission dates)
 - Active duty service commitments and payment amounts are based on qualifying dental education and the length of the contract signed, with options for 2, 3, 4, or 6 years
 - Payments occur annually ranging from \$13,000 - \$115,000 each year
 - Compared to an accession bonus, recipients may receive more cash in hand after taxes
- 30 days of vacation with pay each year
- TriCare Prime insurance for you and your dependents which provides qualifying medical care at no cost
- No requirement for malpractice insurance and a potential for disability benefits upon retirement
- Supplies for clinical practice at no additional cost to you
- Blended Retirement System with benefits not requiring 20 years in military service
 - Does include an additional pension after 20 years in military service
- Access to the Thrift Savings Plan, the government's equivalent to a 401K
- Countless opportunities for military discounts and benefits across various industries and organizations
- Access to tax free goods and services at all military installations

Who Can Apply?

- Applicants should have graduated with a DDS or DMD degree from an American Dental Association accredited college or university.
 - Applicants graduating in 2024 and 2025 can apply, but selection for accession will be contingent on final graduation from dental school.
- Applicants have an unrestricted dental license in a state within the U.S.
- Dental specialists applying must have completed a residency acceptable to the Air Force Surgeon General
- Applicants must be US citizens and be able to obtain the appropriate security clearance
- Applicants must be morally and physically qualified for commissioning as an Air Force officer
- Applicants must be between the ages of 18-48 (requests for waivers are considered on a case by case basis)
- Applicants must complete OTS (5-week officer training program at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama)
- Applicants must be able to enter Air Force Active Duty no later than 30 Sept 2025

Service Obligation for Direct Accession

- Serve a minimum 3-year time in active service commitment as an active duty dentist

When to Apply?

- NOW! Selection boards for FY24 are rolling. Applications will be reviewed and meet a selection board in the order that their packages are completed and submitted.

Air Force Graduate Dental Education (GDE)

- The AF has numerous dental residency and fellowship training program opportunities in over 25 different specialties/focus areas at 11 different AF training locations, in addition to some Army, Navy and civilian locations.
- Direct accessions must serve a minimum of 2 years in general dentistry or the specialty in which they accessed prior to starting a residency/fellowship training program while on active duty. This is due to a 2-year minimum time on station PCS limitation. Direct accessions may apply for military residency/fellowship training while applying for accession and while serving their initial 2 years as a general dentist or in the specialty in which they accessed.
- The Graduate Dental Education Selection Board (GDESB) is the process by which AF obligated officers compete for selection in GDE residencies and fellowship programs and is similar to the civilian match.
- Most individuals will be selected for residency training in AF programs; however, some students may be selected by the GDESB to train in civilian residency programs.
- Residents/fellows attending specialty training receive full active duty pay and benefits and may promote while in their training program.
- Detailed information on the GDE application process is provided to all program participants by the AF Dental Education Officer (AFPC.DPMND.GraduateDentalEdu@us.af.mil).

Why Should You Consider Air Force Dentistry?

In addition to the financial benefits, we believe there are several other reasons why AF Dentistry may be the right choice for you. Some of the most commonly cited advantages that AF dentists mention when discussing their jobs include:

- Great patient populations! Our patients include active duty and retired military members and their families.
- The ability to provide total care. One of the fundamental advantages of the military health system is the ability to render care to a patient without worrying about whether or not they can afford treatment.
- Quality colleagues. No doubt about it, dentists who choose to serve in the military are a special group of highly trained, dedicated professionals. Our group practice model allows for professional collaboration and fosters mentoring.
- Travel opportunities. AF dentists can be stationed at military clinics and hospitals all over the world and deploy in support of military operations. In addition, they also participate in a variety of humanitarian missions all over the globe.
- World-class education with zero debt! If you are selected for specialty training, you will find that the salaries and benefits of being a resident in a military training program far exceed civilian averages.
- Opportunity to be a leader and make a difference -- not only for individuals in your local community and duty station, but quite possibly for individuals and communities around the world.

How Can You Get More Information about AF Dental Career Opportunities?

- Civilian FQ and HPSP applicants should contact a local Health Professions recruiter via <https://www.airforce.com/find-a-recruiter>. Be sure to submit your zip code and select "Air Force Active Duty to receive your local list of recruiters. Contact your local "Healthcare Recruiter" in the list provided.
- Active Duty/ROTC/USAFA HPSP applicants should contact the AF Dental Education Officer, Maj Elizabeth Morris, at AFPC.DPMND.GraduateDentalEdu@us.af.mil or DSN = 665-0645/Comm = (210)565-0645.
- Civilian applicants interested in applying for military residencies/fellowships should contact the AF Dental Education Officer, Maj Elizabeth Morris, at AFPC.DPMND.GraduateDentalEdu@us.af.mil.

*Dental special pays are based on the FY24 DC Consolidated Special Pay (CSP) Plan